

REMARKS

Claims 1, 19 and 22 are amended to correct informalities.

Claim Rejections – U.S.C. § 102

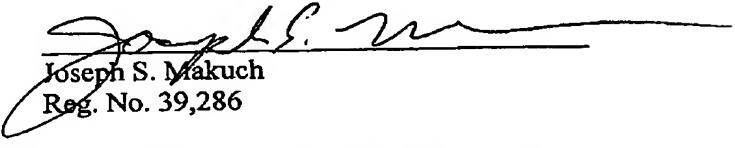
Claims 17, 19-20 and 22-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Parker, U.S. Patent No. 6,538,923 ("Parker"). Claims 18, 21 and 24-26 have been objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim. Applicant traverses this rejection. Nonetheless, rejected claim 17 has been amended to include all of the limitations of objected claim 18. Claim 18 has been cancelled and claim 26 has been amended accordingly. Objected claims 21 and 24 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and other intervening claims. Thus, claims 17 and 19-26 should now be allowable.

Conclusion

Applicant requests reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,

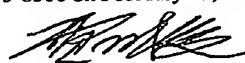
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